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ABSTRACT

This guidebook explores the role of journal writing in community-service leadership and learning. Specifically, it offers suggestions to community-service leaders to help engage their teams in reflective journal writing. The introduction provides an overview of the history of journal-keeping. Chapter 1 provides a rationale for the use of reflection in service work. Journal writing helps participants heighten observational skills, process information, explore feelings, assess progress, evaluate, improve communication, enhance writing skills and fluency, and build citizenship. The second chapter describes the material needs of the journal itself, and chapter 3 offers tips for positively communicating the value of journals to students. Journal formats and approaches are described in the fourth chapter. The fifth chapter suggests appropriate topics for reflective writing. Guidelines for sustaining participants' long-term interest in journal-writing are offered in chapter 6. Chapter 7 highlights approaches for accommodating special-needs students. Journal activities and starter exercises are described in the eighth chapter. Appendices summarize activities of an American Alliance for Rights and Responsibilities introductory workshop for reflective-journal writing. (Contains 17 references.) (LMI)

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